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FEMININE CHAT

The new neckwear is noticeably flatter and frillier.

Skunk and wolf are excellent for coats and muffs sets.

All evening gowns are long and most of them have extended trains.

Many of the high girdles are made of oriental ribbon with long hanging ends.

The skirts are of crepe meteor, or some such soft and pliable material.

Waist belts are very decorative and give a dainty finish to the indoor frocks.

For all the talk to the contrary, there is no doubt that this is to be a velvet season.

The fashion for browns in dull wood and fur tones without any hint of yellow is assured.

Discolored knife handles can be improved by rubbing them with brick dust and vinegar.

The Robespierre fashion promises to be the rage in both blouses and one piece dresses.

This winter the dressmakers are devoting much time to the study of the separate waist.

The new English raincoats for girls

have a porous "sweatband" inside across the shoulders.

Many of the new gowns have their skirts caught at the foot by buttons and ornamental straps.

A long stole of black fox fur looks well on any autumn walking suit, and is never out of fashion.

The fad for making one side of the bodice different from the other is as much as ever in evidence.

Double maline and tulle ruffs are worn in black and white, tied around the neck with velvet ribbons.

The envelope shaped handbag is a fancy of the moment and it comes in varied sizes and materials.

The separate chiffon blouse is much in evidence and it is combined effectively with a satin trimming.

The most brilliant shades are fancied for stockings and shoes have almost invariably the fancy tops.

To restore a brim of a hat to its original shape damp it with cold water bend it to its proper shape, when necessary stuffing it with paper, and dry in a hot place.

Muffs of the new and fashionable sort are very large, but utterly lacking in stiffness. Heads and tails as decorations are more popular on muffs than ever before.

The extreme empire lines on which some of the newest creations of the French couturiers are cut seem to defy

the so-called tendency to return to the normal waist line.

Butterfly bows, instead of flat square ones, are being used by the milliners. Expensive flowered ribbons in antique designs and with picot edges are used on hats in place of flowers.

EASY WAYS TO MAKE DELICIOUS ECLAIRS

Home-made eclairs and cream puffs are almost unknown in the average household, yet they can be cheaply made, says the San Diego Union.

For the eclairs you will need an eclair tin in the shape similar to the one used for sponge finger biscuits. The cream puffs are baked in round patty-pans of rather a large size.

The first step is to learn how to make the choux paste, which is the foundation of all these kinds of French pastries.

Choux paste—Two ounces of butter, half a teaspoonful of cold water, four tablespoonfuls of flour, two eggs, a few drops of vanilla. This quantity will make 24 eclairs or puffs.

Put the water—which must be quite cold—into a small stewpan, stand it in the hot plate or over a small gas ring, as it must only have gentle heat, put in the butter and leave it until the butter has quite melted, but be careful that it does not boil.

Now stir in the flour by degrees until it forms a mass that will leave the sides of the saucepan clean, turn this into a basin and let it get cold.

Then beat in the eggs previously well whipped, and a tablespoonful of milk. Beat until it is quite smooth,

and then use as directed in the following receipts:

Chocolate eclairs—Grease the eclair tin with lard or butter and half fill—not more, as it will rise—with the choux paste. Bake in a hot oven until a golden brown; this will take from five to 10 minutes; and then remove from the tin with a knife, placing on a sieve to get cold.

When quite cold make a slit in the side of the "case" and fill with cream that has been whipped until stiff and flavored with vanilla. Prepare the chocolate icing as follows:

Into a small enameled saucepan put one ounce of plain chocolate and a tablespoonful of water, let it melt, then bring it just to boiling point. Place a saucepan on the table and stir into it a quarter of a pound of sugar that has been freed from lumps by rubbing it through a fine sieve. Mix thoroughly and then cover the top of each eclair with a coating of the mixture.

Lemon eclairs—Ice with the following: Rub four ounces of icing sugar through a fine sieve, mix with it a dessertspoonful of strained lemon juice and sufficient whipped white of egg to form a thick cream. Spread rather thickly over the eclairs.

Cream puffs—Half fill deep, round patty pans with the choux paste and bake in a hot oven. When cold, make a hole in the side and fill with nicely flavored whipped cream, sprinkle with icing sugar and serve.

NEW TRIMMINGS

The keynote of the dress trimming situation for the coming season is certainly novelty. Nothing is too "different" and unusual not to be in demand and the more curious the trimming the greater seems to be its popularity.

Fringes are favored by the fashion makers in Paris and Berlin. Silk ball fringes in every conceivable style, size and combination of color will be used on the more dressy costumes. Virtually all kinds of bead fringes are in demand, from the simplest to the most elaborate in the medium and narrow widths. Silk fringe will be seen on the gowns of plainer cut.

Opalescent bead fringes, jet, black and white and all the shades of amber are great favorites, with gold and silver for use on elaborate evening costumes and some of the handsome wraps for evening wear.

Colored embroidered bands are meeting with high favor. These come in all widths and a wide variety of designs, many of them showing metallic threads intermingled with the flax silk. Solid metal effects are largely used: Gold, silver, copper and gun-metal embroideries set at intervals with mock jewels are wonderful in their beauty, especially those of Oriental design and rich coloring.

Jets in hand embroideries and fringes are well liked for trimmings on black and white gowns; dull jets are seen on mourning costumes. Very effective are the cut jet buttons with rhinestone centers and crystal buttons of all the conceivable colors set with colored jewels and rhinestones.

Some of the most unusual effects are seen in the chiffon floral trimmings. These are in the form of bands of small or large blossoms, leaves and buds, that can be transferred to the gown simply by catching them lightly from underneath with rather loose stitching. They can be had in wreaths, garlands, clusters and in single blossoms and there is certainly no question as to their beauty and adaptability in the trimming of elaborate costumes for evening and formal occasions in the afternoon.

Tunics are in great demand. Old and fancy styles are especially well liked. Prominent among these are those that are cut away in front, showing the influence of the directoire period now dominant in garments of all descriptions. Other styles are draped in pannier effect or else slashed at the side, forming long panels in the front and the back. Very handsome models are they that show demurely, which vogue comes directly from Paris.

Some of the home elaborate tunics have quaint fichu, surplice and bertha effects, motifs of chiffon floral designs or insets of lace and beaded trimmings.

Bras there are in such numbers and varieties that it would be impossible to describe them in a limited space. But all are beautiful in design and texture, and if you desire a trimming for a simple morning frock choose braid.

ROAST WILD DUCK.

Prepare a duck for roasting and stuff with the following: Take the skin outside stalks of a head of celery, wash and wipe dry and with a sharp knife shave off the strings. Peel two or three medium sized onions and chop them and the celery fine. Put a piece of butter the size of an egg in a skillet and let it get hot, then put in the celery and onions and let them cook till soft, stirring often; season with salt and pepper and stuff the duck with as much of the stuffing as it will hold. Sew it up, put a few pieces of butter, salt and pepper over the top and roast in a hot oven from a half to three quarters of an hour, according to taste. Remove the duck from the pan, skim the fat from the gravy, add a little bouillon and thicken with a little flour made smooth in a little cold water.

BANANA CROQUETTES.

Peel six bananas, cut a slice from each end, then cut into crosswise sections. Dredge well with powdered sugar and marinate one hour in the juice of two oranges, turning the sections over now and then. Roll in beaten egg, then in grated crumbs and fry in deep, hot fat. For the sauce, strain the syrup after the bananas have been



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taken out, bring just to the boiling point, then thicken with one tablespoon of cornstarch stirred smooth in a little cold water. Cook until clear, take from the fire and add a half tea-

spoon of orange extract.
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